

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Severe Weather and Floods
FEMA-DR-1655-VA)
FEMA/VDEM Joint Field Office**

**STATE SITUATION REPORT # 18
1400 Hours 26 July 2006**

(New Information in Bold Italics)

SUMMARY

The combination of tropical moisture steered northward around a low pressure system near Florida and a stationary frontal boundary across the Mid-Atlantic and New England States led to substantial rainfall and flooding across portions of the Commonwealth beginning 23 June 2006. Successive severe weather systems have continued to impact the Commonwealth.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

JFO Activation:

The Virginia Emergency Operations Center remains at Recovery Operations as activity continues from the Joint Field Office (JFO) located at 4800 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA. The JFO is assisting local jurisdictions in their recovery efforts.

Regular JFO FEMA/VDEM staff meetings will be conducted at the JFO on Tu-Th of each week at 0900 hours in the JFO Conference Room. Regular VDEM staff meetings will be conducted on M-W-F of each week at 0800 hours in the JFO Conference Room.

**State of Emergency and
Executive Order:**

Through an Executive Order, Governor Timothy M. Kaine declared a Statewide Emergency on 28 June 2006. Governor Kaine requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance, Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation on 30 June for the counties of Alleghany, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Botetourt, Dickenson, Fairfax, Highland, King George, Montgomery and Rockbridge and the independent cities of Alexandria and Salem.

President Bush declared a Major Disaster for the Commonwealth of Virginia on 13 July 2006. The City of Alexandria, the Counties of Alleghany, Arlington, Bath, Dickenson, Fairfax, Highland, King George and Rockbridge were designated to receive Public Assistance along with State, Local Governments and certain private nonprofit organizations. All jurisdictions in the Commonwealth are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The request for Individual Assistance is pending further review. On 20 July 2006 Governor Kaine requested the addition of Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, and Henry Counties to the Public Assistance Disaster Declaration.

WEATHER

Forecast:

Three-day forecast (W-Th-F - 26-28 July 2006): Partly sunny on Wednesday and Thursday with Heat Index values up to 104 on Thursday. Partly cloudy Wednesday and Thursday nights with lows in the 70s. Highs around 90 Wednesday through Friday. Chance of rain 40% on Friday.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION (ESF-15)

Legislative Liaison:

Established Initial contact with 44 legislators who represent the nine declared jurisdictions for Public Assistance (PA) advising them of JFO location/operation

and that VDEM POC is Mr. Art Warren (art.warren@vdem.virginia.gov). Also, established initial contact with Virginia Congressional Liaison, Mr. Alphonzo Lopez, apprising him with initial situation and ongoing operations. All were informed of the two Public Assistance Program applicant briefings. All were requested to contact the JFO-Legislative Liaison if they have questions.

Legislator input into response activities continues to be monitored. There have been minimal requests from state legislators regarding issues. Continue to coordinate with FEMA Congressional Liaison, Marge Atkins, regarding legislative events/inputs.

Public Information Office (PIO): Distributed media advisory to alert media of the news desk telephone number. Met with VDEM Mitigation staff to discuss flood insurance promotions plans. Drafted a specific news release for add-ons (TBP). Distributed a general information Public Assistance news release to media and posted it to VDEM website.

Community Relations (CR): CR Teams completed their meetings with local emergency managers of declared jurisdictions on Saturday. Received good feedback from all; no substantial additional damage was identified.

OPERATIONS SECTION

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS BRANCH

ESF 1 – Transportation: ***Virginia Department of Transportation: As of 1000 hours 26 July, VDOT reported no primary roads and 2 secondary roads closed. Estimated completion dates for repairs to SR 697 in Franklin County and SR 620 in Mecklenburg County is late August.***

**ESF 14 – Long-term
Community Recovery:**

**Initial Damage
Assessment Reports:**

Locality (37 each)	Private (18 each)	Public* (34 each)
Total	\$17,002,050	\$16,661,498

*Includes VDOT estimates and damages to state-owned facilities.

**State Public Assistance
(PA) Briefings:**

An Applicants' Briefing for the State Agencies ***was held at*** 1330 hours on Tuesday, 25 July 2006 at Room 219 at the State Police Academy, 7700 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA. ***Representatives from affected state agencies, FEMA, VDEM, and James Lee Witt & Associates (JLW&A) were in attendance (total attendance was 20 people). One additional PA request was received by VDEM from VDOT.***

An Applicants' Briefing for Northern Virginia ***was held at*** 1000 hours on Wednesday, 26 July 2006 at the Fairfax County Government Center (***alternate EOC***) 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 151C, Fairfax, VA. ***Representatives from affected state agencies, FEMA, VDEM, and James Lee Witt & Associates were in attendance (total attendance was 71 people). "PA Kickoff meetings" will begin on Friday, 28 July and continue through next week (31 Jul – 4 Aug). Following the meeting, Deborah Mills (DSCO), Bill Lloyd (CR) and Mike Robinson (JLW&A) will travel to Clifton to provide the Mayor and members of the Masonic Lodge information regarding allowable repairs and flood prevention options for damaged structures.***

Individual Assistance:

In support of a potential IA declaration, FEMA and VDEM representatives visited Alexandria and Arlington and revisited the Huntington area in Fairfax on Saturday,

22 July 2006. Additional damage info **was** forwarded to FEMA HQ on **Wednesday, 26 July**. Anticipate decision on IA declaration by end of week.

Mitigation:

Continuing to develop mitigation guidelines and strategy for this disaster in coordination with FEMA and Dept of Conservation and Recreation Floodplain Management Program with a final draft for FCO/SCO review upon completion.

Continuing to develop an administrative plan for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for review by FEMA and VDEM planning staff.

Continuing to coordinate with VDEM External Affairs (EA) regarding a media campaign for flood insurance awareness. VDEM currently has an ongoing Hurricane Awareness Campaign. Anticipate VDEM/FEMA Mitigation staffs will provide input into this FEMA EA campaign effort.

PLANNING SECTION

ESF 5 – Emergency Management:

Planning staff **is providing** VDEM JFO Situation Reports M-W-F this week.

A Hurricane Preparedness Planning Meeting was conducted at the JFO this AM. Attendees were Michael Cline (SCO), Ted Costin (VDEM Director of Planning), Stewart Baker (Hurricane Planning Program Manager), Gracia Szczech (FCO), Bob Gunter (FCO Special Assistant), Gene Marrone (FEMA Region III Hurricane Planning Officer), and Patricia Evatt (FEMA-JFO Planning Section). After an overview presentation by Mr. Baker of the Commonwealth's plan, roundtable discussions addressed how FEMA can assist in the Commonwealth's preparedness planning.

ESF 7 – Resource Management

Developing an overall VDEM JFO staffing plan for the DSCO. The staffing plan will be present through the Labor Day week (24 Jul – 8 Sep 2006). In conjunction with the overall VDEM JFO staffing plan, a staffing plan for other VDEM staff members to participate within the VDEM JFO Planning Section is being developed in coordination with the VDEM Planning Division Chief at Trade Court and the VDEM JFO Operations Section Chief.

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SECTION

Personnel Unit:

Current VDEM JFO staffing is **15**.

Administration Unit:

A daily courier service began Monday, 24 July 2006 with a 1000 hours pickup at Trade Court and a 1030 hours pickup at EOC, with approximate 1130 hours arrival at JFO (at the DSCO Admin Office). In the afternoon, the courier will then leave the JFO at 1330 hours for deliveries to the EOC at 1430 hours, ending at 1500 hours at Trade Court.

Finance Unit:

All VDEM personnel working at the JFO received a policy and guidance briefing on a number of topics regarding pay/travel/rental autos, etc. from VDEM Finance Director, Linda Coleman, and members of her staff at 21 July VDEM-JFO staff meeting.

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/s/ Michael Cline, State Coordinating Officer